

Practitioner's Docket No. MPI1997-035CP3**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Kindly amend claims 48-57 as follows:

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

1. cancelled
2. cancelled
- 3.(allowed, amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 8, which is a mammalian polypeptide.
4. (allowed) The isolated polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the polypeptide is a human polypeptide.
5. (allowed,amended) An isolated polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid having ATCC Designation No. 209510.
6. (allowed,amended) An isolated polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.
7. (allowed,amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
8. (allowed,amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 90% identical to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
9. (allowed,amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 8, which has a at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide; wherein the bioactivity is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) binding to a target peptide;
 - (b) catalyzing hydrolysis of a target peptide; and
 - (c) interacting with a metal ion selected from Zn^{2+} , Co^{2+} , and Mn^{2+} .
- 10.(allowed) The isolated polypeptide of claim 9, which binds a target peptide.
- 11.(allowed) The isolated polypeptide of claim 10, which binds angiotensin I.

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12.(allowed) The isolated polypeptide of claim 11, which hydrolyzes angiotensin I into angiotensin (1-9).

13.(allowed) The isolated polypeptide of claim 10, which binds kinetensin.

14.(allowed,renumbered) The isolated polypeptide of claim 13, which hydrolyzes kinetensin into kinetensin (1-8).

15.(allowed,renumbered) The isolated polypeptide of claim 8, which is encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or complement thereof.

16. (renumbered, amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising at least 50 consecutive amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2 and which has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide; wherein the bioactivity is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) binding to a target peptide;
- (b) catalyzing hydrolysis of a target peptide; and
- (c) interacting with a metal ion selected from Zn^{2+} , Co^{2+} , and Mn^{2+} .

17-43. renumbered, cancelled

44.(allowed, renumbered) An isolated polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

45. renumbered, cancelled

46(renumbered, twice amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 90 % identical to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide; wherein the bioactivity is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) binding to a target peptide;
- (b) catalyzing hydrolysis of a target peptide; and
- (c) interacting with a metal ion selected from Zn^{2+} , Co^{2+} , and Mn^{2+} .

47. renumbered, cancelled

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48. .(renumbered, presently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 46 47, which binds a target peptide.

49. .(renumbered, presently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 48 49, which binds angiotensin I.

50. .(renumbered, presently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 49 50, which hydrolyzes angiotensin I into angiotensin (1-9).

51. .(renumbered, presently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 50 49, which binds kinetensin.

52. .(renumbered, presently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51 52, which hydrolyzes kinetensin into kinetensin (1-8).

53. .(renumbered, presently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 16 47, which binds a target peptide.

5455. .(renumbered, presently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 53 54, which binds angiotensin I.

55. .(renumbered, presently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 54 55, which hydrolyzes angiotensin I into angiotensin (1-9).

56. .(renumbered, presently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 53 54, which binds kinetensin.

57. .(renumbered, presently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 56 57, which hydrolyzes kinetensin into kinetensin (1-8).